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EXCISE

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INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-15 OIC-02 CIAE-00 H-10-16 NEA-06 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 HA-06 DOE-10 TRSE-00 PM-09 PA-01 SSM-03 INRE-00 SAL-01 OES-09 ACDA-12 SSN-02 ICAE-00 SP-02 DOEE-00 SPRS-02 /119 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4351
INFO JCS WASHDC
DIA WASHINGTON DC//30-381//
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
USINT BAGHDAD
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
COMSIXTHFLT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY J.L. DATE 9/30/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☒
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☐
RELEASE DENIED☒ in part
PA or (FOI) EXEMPTIONS B-1

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 ROME 14216

E.O. 12065: RDS-1 06/10/01 (FROWICK, R.H.) OR-P
TAGS: MOPS, MNUC, MILI, IS, IZ, IT
SUBJECT: ISRAELI RAID ON IRAQI NUCLEAR FACILITY -- ITALIAN REACTIONS

REF: ROME 13802 (NOTAL)

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT)

2. SUMMARY. ITALIAN GOVERNMENT STATEMENTS ON THE ISRAELI RAID IN IRAQ, WHILE STOPPING SHORT OF OUTRIGHT CONDEMNATION, EXPRESS GRAVE CONCERN OVER CONSEQUENCES OF THE INCIDENT AND THE SAFETY OF THOSE WHO WORK IN "PEACEFUL CENTERS" (MEANING ORDINARY NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS). THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR IN TEL AVIV HAS BEEN
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ASKED TO CONVEY ROME'S CONCERN TO THE ISRAELI GOVERN-

MENT. THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY HAS EXPRESSED ITS OBJECTION TO THE LACK OF ANY CONDEMNATION BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND CHARGES THAT "AWACS PLANES SUPPLIED TO SAUDI ARABIA" SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MONITOR THE ATTACK. MFA MAINTAINS THAT ITS LACK OF CONDEMNATION IS BASED ON A DESIRE EVENTUALLY TO PLAY A MEDIATING ROLE. PRESS AND MFA HAVE RECONFIRMED THAT THERE ARE NO ITALIAN CASUALTIES AND THAT ITALIAN TECHNICIANS HAVE BEEN REPATRIATED. PRESS ALSO NOTES THAT PARIS, ROME AND WASHINGTON HAVE BEEN ATTACKED IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER BY PM BEGIN FOR THEIR ROLE IN THE CRISIS OR THEIR REACTION TO IT. END SUMMARY.

3. FOLLOWING ARE EMBASSY TRANSLATIONS OF MFA STATEMENTS ISSUED LATE JUNE 8 AND LATE JUNE 9 CONCERNING THE ISRAELI RAID:

BEGIN TEXT OF JUNE 8 STATEMENT: IN CONNECTION WITH THE BOMBING OF THE IRAQI NUCLEAR CENTER BY ISRAELI AIRCRAFT, PEOPLE AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOLLOW THESE EVENTS WITH GREAT CONCERN. THE AIR STRIKE WAS ALSO DISCUSSED DURING THE MEETING BETWEEN MINISTER COLOMBO AND FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER CLAUDE CHEYSSON WHO SHARED THE CONCERN VOICED BY THE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER. LASTLY, IT IS THE FARNESINA'S UNDERSTANDING THAT THE RAID DIDN'T CAUSE ANY DAMAGES TO THE ITALIANS WHO WORK IN THE NUCLEAR CENTER. END TEXT.

BEGIN TEXT OF SECOND JUNE 8 STATEMENT: IN A NOTE ISSUED IN CONNECTION WITH THE BOMBING OF THE TAHUZ NUCLEAR CENTER BY ISRAEL, THE FARNESINA EXPRESSED ITS GRAVE CONCERN OVER THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE INCIDENT

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AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT SUCH EPISODES MAY JEOPARDIZE THE SAFETY OF THOSE WHO WORK IN PEACEFUL CENTERS. THIS PLANT -- IT IS NOTED -- LIKE OTHER PLANTS SUPPLIED TO IRAQ, HAS PEACEFUL PURPOSES. IT IS IN CONFORMITY NOT ONLY WITH THE PURPOSES BUT ALSO THE LETTER OF THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, A TREATY IRAQ HAS SIGNED. ALL EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED TO IRAQ IS INSPECTED BY IAEA. END TEXT.

BEGIN TEXT OF JUNE 9 STATEMENT: FOREIGN MINISTER

ON. EMILIO COLOMBO HAS ASKED THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR IN TEL AVIV TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO VOICE THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT'S DEEP CONCERN OVER THE ISRAELI AIR STRIKE AGAINST THE IRAQI NUCLEAR CENTER OF TAMUZ, UNDERSCORING THE INADMISSIBLE NATURE OF SUCH AN ACTION. END TEXT.

4. THE ITALIAN COMMUNISTS HAVE USED THE ISRAELI RAID TO INJECT, FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF THE P-2 SCANDAL, A FOREIGN POLICY ISSUE INTO THE INCREASINGLY BITTER POLEMICS WITH THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS AND THEIR COALITION PARTIES. PCI NOTABLES GIAN CARLO PAJETTA AND PAOLO BUFALINI CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER COLOMBO JUNE 9 TO DEMAND THAT THE GOI CONDEMN THE ISRAELI RAID. A DOCUMENT SIMULTANEOUSLY ISSUED BY THE PARTY SECRETARIAT AND PUBLISHED ON PAGE ONE OF "L'UNITA" EXPRESSED "SURPRISE AND CRITICISM" FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE IMMEDIATELY TO CONDEMN ISRAEL'S "IRRESPONSIBLE ACT OF AGGRESSION".

5. THE UNITED STATES IS MENTIONED DIRECTLY IN THE PCI

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DOCUMENT ONLY AS THE SUPPLIER OF THE PLANES WHICH CARRIED OUT THE ATTACK (ALTHOUGH AN ACCOMPANYING ARTICLE BY A "L'UNITA" CORRESPONDENT CHARGES THAT "THE AWACS PLANES SUPPLIED BY THE U.S. TO SAUDI ARABIA" MUST HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MONITOR THE ISRAELI ACTION). HOWEVER, ONE PASSAGE STATES THAT THE ISRAELI ACTION SHOWS THAT THE GOVERNMENTS WHICH SUPPORT THE CAMP DAVID ACCORD "DO NOT HAVE THE WILL TO USE PEACEFUL MEANS TO SEEK AND FIND A SOLUTION TO CONFLICTS WHICH CONSTITUTE THE GRAVEST HOTBED OF TENSION AND MOST ACUTE THREAT TO PEACE". FINALLY, THE SECRETARIAT STATEMENT CALLS ON PARTY MEMBERS TO "INTENSIFY THE WORK OF EXPLANATION AND MOBILIZATION OF THE MASSES FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT, CONDEMNING WARLIKE ACTIONS... AND CALLING FOR A GLOBAL AND PEACEFUL SOLUTION... WITH RECOGNITION OF THE

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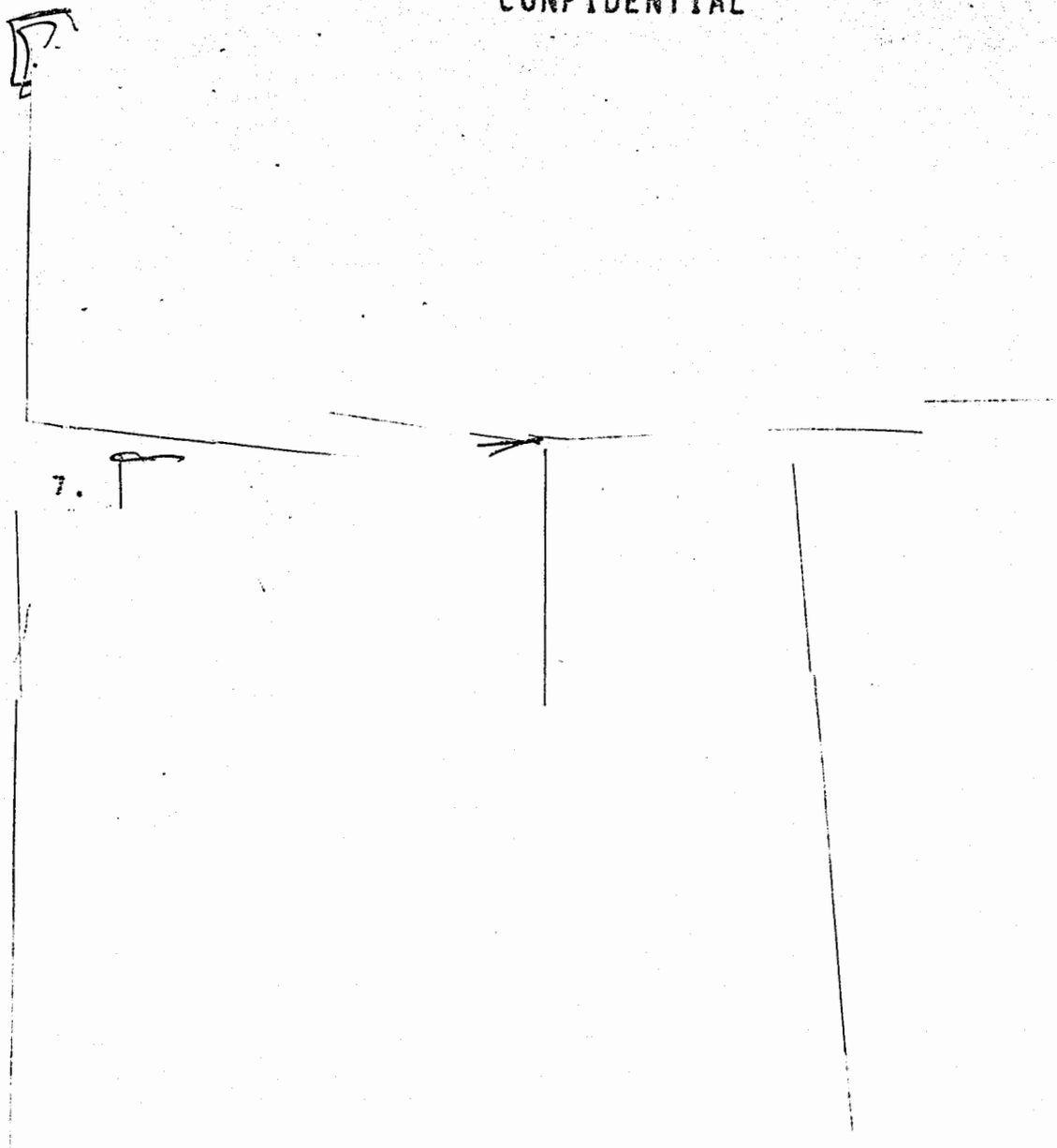
NATIONAL RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE".

6.



CORRESPONDENT QUOTED FROM [redacted] THE
STATING THAT THE ITALIAN CONTRACT PROVIDED FOR TRANSFER
OF A "RADIOCHEMISTRY LABORATORY, DESIGNED FOR THE

ACQUISITION OF GENERAL KNOWLEDGE ON THE CHEMISTRY OF ACTINIDES AND FISSION PRODUCTS . SUCH KNOWLEDGE OF A UNIVERSITY LEVEL AND ON A LABORATORY SCALE DO NOT CONSTITUTE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY AS DEFINED BY THE LONDON ACCORDS, SINCE IT IS PUBLICLY AVAILABLE BOTH IN SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE AND IN INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES." [redacted] B1-B

9. THE PRESS HAS BEEN ALMOST UNIFORMLY NEGATIVE TOWARDS ISRAEL IN ITS REACTION. THE INFLUENTIAL CENTRIST DAILY "CORRIERE DELLA SERA" SPEAKS OF "AGGRESSION AGAINST IRAQ" AND QUOTES PRESIDENT REAGAN TO THE EFFECT THAT "BEGIN'S ERRORS ARE PLAYING INTO THE HANDS OF THE SOVIET UNION". THE LEFTIST DAILY "LA REPUBBLICA" NOTES THAT PARIS, ROME AND WASHINGTON HAVE ALL BEEN PUT IN THE SAME BASKET BY BEGIN FOR EITHER CONTRIBUTING TO INCREASED TENSION IN THE MIDDLE EAST BY SUPPLYING IRAQ WITH A NUCLEAR POTENTIAL, OR (IN THE CASE OF WASHINGTON) FOR "CONDEMNING THE ATTACK WITHOUT HAVING

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4353
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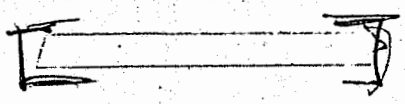
ALL THE FACTS AT OUR DISPOSAL". PORTIONS OF THE "TASS" ARTICLE ACCUSING THE U.S. OF BEING BEHIND THE ATTACK ARE ALSO QUOTED.

10. COMMENT:



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